

1760

REGULATION ASSIGNMENT CONTROL SHEET

LOG CONTROL NUMBER: 147 ANALYST
ASSIGNED: CAREY

TYPE OF ACTION: NPP

TITLE: REHABILITATION LONG-TERM TRAINING:
REHABILITATION COUNSELING

RECEIVED: 6/6/02

DATE ASSIGNED: 6/6/02

DATE DUE: 6/13/02

ANALYST SIGNATURE: Sheli Carey

COMPLETION DATE: 6/11/02

FINAL APPROVAL: Joseph Schubert DATE: June 11, 2002

Approved

OMB NO: 1820-0018 Exp. Date - 8/31/2004

REG PART:

Rudolph, Kim

From: Carey, Sheila
Sent: Friday, June 07, 2002 9:14 AM
To: Rudolph, Kim
Subject: FW: Proposed Priority

approve 6/7/02 1820-0018 expires 8/31/04

hard copy in your inbox, thanks

-----Original Message-----

From: Muzzio, Timothy
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2002 3:14 PM
To: Fuller, Carole; Rosen, Jeff; Gregory, Wava; March, Greg; Carey, Sheila; Marschall, Christine; Winters, Deborah; Price, Deborah
Subject: Proposed Priority

PLEASE DIRECT ALL RESPONSES/INQUIRIES TO CHRISTINE MARSCHALL.

Attached is a proposed priority for the training program for FY 2003. While there may seem no rush on this, it is actually behind schedule as we must award these grants in January (which means we should have published the proposed priority by now). Please review for concurrence and respond to Christine Marschall by Thursday, June 13. It should be noted that the concept in this priority has been approved by the OSERS assistant secretary.



Counseling NPP.doc

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rehabilitation Long-Term Training: Rehabilitation
Counseling

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative
Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed priority.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special
Education and Rehabilitative Services proposes a priority
under the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program. The
Assistant Secretary may use this priority for competitions
in fiscal year (FY) 2003 and in later years. We take this
action to focus on training in an identified area of
national need. We intend the priority to increase the pool
of qualified rehabilitation counselors available for
employment with the State Vocational Rehabilitation
Services Program.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before (INSERT
DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL
REGISTER).

ADDRESSES: Address all comments about this proposed
priority to Christine Marschall, U.S. Department of
Education, 400 Maryland Ave, S.W., Switzer Building, room

3325, Washington, DC 20202-2649. If you prefer to send your comments through the Internet, use the following address:

Christine.Marschall@ed.gov

You must include the term "Long-Term Training Program: Rehabilitation Counseling" in the subject line of your electronic message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine Marschall.

Telephone: (202) 205-8926 or via Internet:

Christine.Marschall@ed.gov

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8133.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Invitation to Comment

We invite you to submit comments regarding this proposed priority. We invite you to assist us in complying with the specific requirements of Executive Order 12866 and its overall requirement of reducing regulatory burden that might result from this proposed priority. Please let us know of any further opportunities we should take to reduce

potential costs or increase potential benefits while preserving the effective and efficient administration of the program.

During and after the comment period, you may inspect all public comments about this proposed priority in room 3414, Switzer Building, Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities in Reviewing the Rulemaking Record

On request, we will supply an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for this proposed priority. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of aid, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for:

- (1) Projects that provide basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary;
- (2) Projects that provide a specified series of courses or program of study leading to award of a

certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; and

(3) Projects that provide support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

We propose this priority to address the identified national need to increase the pool of qualified rehabilitation counselors who secure employment with the Federal-State programs of vocational rehabilitation. This proposed priority intends to support a close relationship between the educational institution and the Designated State Unit (DSU) of Vocational Rehabilitation in order to increase the number of graduates who seek employment in the DSU. We will announce the final priority in a notice in the Federal Register. We will determine the final priority after considering responses to this notice and other information available to the Department. This notice does not preclude us from proposing or funding additional priorities, subject to meeting applicable rulemaking requirements.

Note: This notice does not solicit applications. In any year in which we choose to use this proposed priority, we invite applications through a notice in the Federal Register. When inviting applications we designate the

priority as absolute, competitive preference, or invitational. The effect of each type of priority follows:

Absolute priority: Under an absolute priority we consider only applications that meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(3)).

Competitive preference priority: Under a competitive preference priority we give competitive preference to an application by either (1) awarding additional points, depending on how well or the extent to which the application meets the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i)); or (2) selecting an application that meets the priority over an application of comparable merit that does not meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii)).

Invitational priority: Under an invitational priority we are particularly interested in applications that meet the invitational priority. However, we do not give an application that meets the priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications (34 CFR 75.105(c)(1)).

Proposed Priority: Partnership with the State VR Agency

Background: The rehabilitation profession is experiencing a personnel shortage of qualified vocational rehabilitation counselors employed by the DSU. Rates of retirement and attrition in the state-federal VR system indicate that this

personnel shortage will increase. A review of the number of graduates who complete master's degrees in rehabilitation counseling documents that only a small percentage of these graduates seek employment with the DSU. Individuals who are aware of the distinct roles of the qualified vocational rehabilitation counselor and benefits of employment within the state-federal system are more likely to secure employment with the DSU.

PRIORITY: This priority supports projects that focus on relationships with the DSU(s) that result in increased knowledge of graduates of the roles, responsibilities, and benefits of the state-federal system of VR. This priority focuses attention on the unique relationship of rehabilitation educators and the public VR system in the preparation of qualified rehabilitation professionals.

Projects funded under this priority must incorporate information about and experience in the public vocational rehabilitation system in the program. Projects must incorporate experiential activities with the DSU such as formal internship or practicum agreements or other experiential activities with the DSU. This priority does not prohibit, and indeed encourages, experiential activities in other, non-DSU settings. Projects must also incorporate other partnering activities with the DSU.

Projects must include an evaluation of the impact of project activities.

National Education Goals

The eight National Education Goals focus the Nation's education reform efforts and provide a framework for improving teaching and learning.

This proposed priority would address the National Education Goal that every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The proposed priority would further the objectives of this goal by focusing available funds on projects that provide students in rehabilitation counseling degree programs an opportunity to learn more about the state-federal system of rehabilitation services.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Applicable Program Regulations: a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 385 and 386.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site:

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.129B

Rehabilitation Long-Term Training: Rehabilitation

Counseling)

PROGRAM AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 774.

Dated:

Robert H. Pasternack, Ph.D.
Assistant Secretary
For Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services.